

Casemate



Spotlight Event

Father-Daughter Cotillion
June 26, 6 p.m.
Bay Breeze, Fort Monroe
Ticket deadline is June 22!
See Page 4 for details.

Vol. 27, No. 12

Published for the community of Fort Monroe, Va.

June 10, 2005

'Hellcats' join TUSCAB for birthday show

Buglers and drummers from the U.S. Military Academy Band, West Point, N.Y., and an Army battle streamer ceremony are among the featured events planned for The U.S. Continental Army Band's 2005 "Army Birthday Celebration" here June 16.

Free and open to the public, the event will start at 7 p.m. at the gazebo at Fort Monroe's Continental Park. Col. Perry D. Allmendinger, Fort Monroe garrison commander, will serve as host for the band's observance of the 230th birthday of the nation's oldest military service.

The battle streamer ceremony will include Soldiers dressed in period costumes and a narration of Army history, highlighted with
See HELLCATS, Page 4

What's Inside



Rio 'rocks' Monroe

Diamond Rio brought their unique blend of country ballads and southern rock tunes to Walker Airfield June 4.

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Photo by Patrick Buffett

Capt. David Southerland, TRADOC Futures Center, and daughter Savannah, 2, place flags at gravesites in the Hampton National Cemetery at the start of Memorial Day weekend. Several dozen volunteers from the Hampton area and its neighboring military installations participated in the May 27 project. The cemetery is decorated with more than 28,000 flags. A Memorial Day ceremony is also conducted annually at the site. For more photos of this year's observances, see Page 10.

NCOs seek top Army title at Monroe

The Army's top 19 drill sergeants from across the nation will gather at Fort Monroe June 19 through 24 to compete for the title of 2005 U.S. Army Drill Sergeant of the Year.

This year, 13 active and six U.S. Army Reserve drill sergeants will participate in the competition. One winner from the active component and one from the reserve component will be selected for the service-wide title.

The four-day competition begins at 7 a.m. June 20 with the Army Physical Fitness Test. The push-up and sit-up events will be conducted at Continental Park, followed by a two-mile run along Fenwick Drive. Scores well in excess of the Army's 300-point maximum for the APFT are common during this portion of the competition. Spectators from the Fort Monroe com-

munity are welcome to come out and cheer for the competitors.

During the earlier part of the week, candidates will also be tested on their knowledge of Soldier/Warrior tasks and how they teach those tasks to new trainees. The DSOY candidates will work with actual recruits from Fort Eustis during this portion of the competition.

The DSOY selection process also includes an appearance before a board

Winners of the 2005 U.S. Army Drill Sergeant of the Year competition will be announced during a June 24 ceremony, starting at 8 a.m. at Continental Park

of senior command sergeants major representing several TRADOC training centers and schools. The candidates will answer questions on leadership, training, Army regulations, current events and an assortment of other topics.

Winners of the 2005 competition will be announced during a June 24 ceremony hosted by U.S. Army Training and Doctrine Command. The event begins at 8 a.m. at Monroe's Continental Park. The public is invited.

The active Army Drill Sergeant of the Year receives the Meritorious Service Medal and the Stephen Ailes Award, initiated in 1969. Ailes was Secretary of the Army from 1964-65 and was instrumental in originating
See DRILL SERGEANT, Page 3

CHECK OUT THE CASEMATE'S TRIBUTE TO GRADUATING HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS, PAGE 7

Around the world, our arrival is a sign of hope.

Army celebration a chance to reflect

As we celebrate the Army's 230th birthday this coming Tuesday, I encourage each Fort Monroe Soldier to reflect upon the unyielding bravery of the men and women who blazed the trail for you. And I challenge you to forge a path that exemplifies the warrior spirit for those destined to follow.

I bid a heartfelt happy birthday to each one of you serving on this world-class installation.

Since the birth of this great fighting force over a year before the Declaration of Independence came into being, the U.S. Army Soldier – and other Americans who comprise this nation's uniformed services – have had a crucial role in the

Commander's Corner



Col. Perry D. Allmendinger
GARRISON COMMANDER

development our nation and in peacekeeping efforts around the world. From winning America's

independence in an eight-year struggle, to preserving the Union through the bloody battles of the Civil War, and all the way through our modern-day global conflicts, the Army has risen to the occasion.

We are still evolving, still growing. And in our hearts we hold dear those most cherished values — loyalty, duty, respect, selfless service, honor, integrity and personal courage — that have sustained us throughout our military careers. The uniformed brothers and sisters in whose footsteps we tread would demand nothing less. It is their sacrifice and dedication we honor with our actions and respect through our traditions.

During this momentous

observance, I also want to acknowledge the entire Fort Monroe family — the civilian workforce, family members, retirees. I am very proud of your service, your sacrifice and your steadfast support of our military forces. Your pride, courage and dedication are the hallmarks of the United States Army.

Today's Soldier is part of the greatest land fighting force in history. Around the world, our arrival is a sign of hope. We carry with us the strength of a nation.

A Soldier, like any other member of the U.S. armed forces, represents the courage, compassion and determination of generations of Soldiers who laid the bedrock. We are in over 120 countries, conducting a

range of missions from humanitarian assistance to combat operations. We continue to maintain peace in Afghanistan and foster democracy in Iraq.

In all that the Army has accomplished, and all that it will be called upon to do, the American Soldier remains the single most important factor in our success. The eyes of freedom-loving people around the world are upon you ... in every theater of operation and every mission ... watching to reaffirm the trust, faith and confidence they've placed in you.

Thank you for your service and for the many contributions over the past year.

Happy Birthday Army! Hooah!

There is a healthy combination of tears and smiles associated with each remembrance.

Season's celebrations share common bond

What a way to start the summer! Mother's Day, Pentecost, Memorial Day, Shavuot, Father's Day, Independence Day ... it truly is a special time of year.

Let's take a moment to think about the special connection among these holidays. It is a time of remembering and honoring. Whether religious or civil, these celebrations link past, present and future. They are how we preserve the very best of our culture and society. We recall with joy and seriousness others' service and sacrifice, and we honor them by embracing the values for which they lived and died.

There are very powerful emotions associated with motherhood, the giving of the Holy Spirit to the church in Jerusalem, honoring those who have died defending freedom, the

Chaplain's Corner



Maj. Jerald Jacobs
Post Chaplain's Office

granting of the Ten Commandments, fatherhood, and our nation's independence. There is a healthy combination of tears and smiles associated with each remembrance.

I've also noticed the varied reactions to these observances. We can get all happy when we think about Mom. We can be "guilted" into buying cards and gifts

to try to make up for a poor relationship with Dad. We can be excited about a worship service honoring the coming of the Holy Spirit or giving of the Law, but not aspire to their teachings the following day. We can wave the flag on July 4 and break the law on July 5 – and not see the "disconnect."

We are creatures of emotion, and sometimes it leads us astray.

The celebration this past Memorial Day at the Hampton National Cemetery was a powerful, emotional and meaningful event. Maj. Gen. Paul Eaton's remarks were timely and moving. As I looked at row upon row of white gravestones I felt emotional about the sacrifice, dedication, loyalty and honor of each person whose life and commitment were represented by those stones.

I thought about the families who grieve the loss of the patriot lying beneath

each of those stones. I thought about my service in Iraq and in so many other places. I thought about those I knew who had been killed in action or had passed away in the years since their years in service. I felt honored and humbled to be in that sacred place and to follow in their footsteps.

But I realize that I need more than emotions. I need to keep their commitment and achievement before me to encourage me to their level of service and sacrifice. I need to translate emotion into motivation for service and integrity.

In our military culture, we have distilled the wisdom and experience of those who have gone before us into values by which we live – loyalty, duty, respect, selfless service, honor, integrity and personal courage.

These are values worth living and dying for. By

remembering the service and sacrifice of those who have gone before, we are better able to serve effectively and, if need be, sacrifice ourselves just as honorably.

Spiritually, Pentecost and Shavuot are memorials that can encourage us to live more consistently in right relationships with God and one another. In both, God himself gave us what we need to live spiritually healthy lives, free of guilt and helplessness.

By recounting what God has done for our spirits, we are better able to serve Him and one another effectively, and, if need be, to sacrifice ourselves honorably in that service. God grant that we never forget the service and sacrifice of all who have gone before us and that we forever strive to emulate them.

God bless you and God bless America.

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Casemate

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Fort Monroe continues concert series with top-selling male country vocalist

For more than a decade, Trace Adkins has enticed country music fans with his booming baritone voice and rugged persona that speaks to America's working class.

His latest album titled "Songs About Me" experienced record sales with 62,000 copies flying off shelves in its first week. The March 2005 release also made a speedy climb to No. 1 on the "Billboard" country chart and No. 11 on the all-genre "Billboard 200." Both of his earlier albums released in 2003 are also camped out on the chart.

"Songs About Me" is filled with the kind of grit and passion for which Adkins has always been known, and the title track is the fastest-moving single of his career. The recognition may be greater than ever, the country star notes, but the formula behind it hasn't changed. "I record songs I can believe in and sing with conviction," he says. "It's that simple."

Fort Monroe is proud to welcome Adkins as the featured performer for its second 2005 summer concert scheduled for July 4 at Walker Airfield. The concert is free and open to the public.

The Independence Day event is held in conjunction with the annual Fourth at the Fort observance, which features family activities, inflatable rides for kids, food and craft vendors and much more. The festivities begin at 4 p.m. The concert's yet-to-be-determined opening act starts at 7 p.m., and the Adkins performance begins at 8 p.m. The annual Fort Monroe fireworks extravaganza finishes off the



evening, starting around 9:30 p.m.

Adkins' peers describe him as "one of the most powerful and distinctive voices in country music history." He has also earned a reputation for being a rugged individualist who captures the hearts of fans through "tell-it-like-it-is" song choices.

Having built one of country's most compelling catalogs of past releases – from breakthrough hits like "Every Light In The House Is On" and "This Ain't No Thinkin' Thing" through the powerful "I'm Tryin'," the sexually charged "Hot Mama" and the raucous "Rough & Ready," a slice of pure attitude captured for posterity – Adkins enjoys an enviable position on the road of success.

"It's great to be able to get up there now and do an hour or 75

minutes of songs (country fans are) familiar with," says the accomplished country crooner who is accustomed to playing packed houses.

"I go out there and it is what it is," he says, once again displaying his no-nonsense attitude. "If I feel like doing something, I do it. If I feel like saying something, I say it. If I feel like dancing, I do. If I don't, I don't."

"I let the night dictate what's going to happen, the vibe in the room or the arena or wherever it is. I don't go out there with a choreographed, programmed thing. Every night it's different. It's going to be what it's going to be, and that's the way I like it. It keeps me interested. If I knew exactly what the show was going to run like every night, I wouldn't even go out there."

Country fans who would like a preview of this 6-foot-6-inch, Springhill, La., native's music might want to visit the Country Music Television Website: CMT.com. In addition to clips from his most recent album, the site features several of his most popular music videos.

Adkins is a member of the Grand Ole Opry and sits on the board of directors of the Country Music Association. He has been a frequent guest on TV talkfests and shows including "King of the Hill" and "Yes, Dear." Both his "Comin' On Strong" CD and "Trace Adkins Video Hits" have recently been certified platinum. His "Greatest Hits Collection, Volume I" also shows promise of achieving that sales mark.

Fans who plan to attend the upcoming concert should note that access to the post for anyone 18 years and older requires a valid picture ID. All three access gates, to include Stilwell, will be open for the event; however, the Ingalls Road entrance is restricted to vehicles with a DoD decal.

No coolers, backpacks, food or beverages may be brought in to the concert area. No weapons are allowed on post.

In case of severe weather, the concert and Fourth and the Fort festivities will be cancelled.

The event is sponsored by Headquarters Fort Monroe, USO of Hampton Roads and Budweiser.

For more information, call the MWR special events hotline at 788-2850.

DRILL SERGEANT

Continued from Page 1

the first drill sergeant school at Fort Leonard Wood, Mo.

The Army Reserve winner also receives the Meritorious Service Medal and the Ralph Haines, Jr., Award. Haines was commander of the Continental Army Command (the forerunner of TRADOC) from 1970-72.

Both winners receive the "Army Times" Eugene P. Famiglietti Award, named for the late editor of the publication.

The Association of the United States Army (AUSA) will present each winner with a gold watch and sponsor both drill sergeants at the 2004 AUSA Annual Meeting in Washington, D.C., in October. Also, the Non Commissioned Officers Association (NCOA) will present each winner with the NCOA Military Excellence Award. The American Military Society and Armed Forces Insurance will make presentations in the form of plaques and books.

Drill sergeants are top-quality, professional noncommissioned officers from virtually all branches of the Army. Their role is to turn citizens into Soldiers. During every recruit's initial entry training period, these NCOs set the tone for their entire military career.

Currently there are approximately 2,900 Army drill sergeants in the active component

and 3,000 in the reserve component.

Each year, TRADOC trains over 300,000 soldiers. Drill sergeants play a critical role in the success of this training and, therefore, have a direct impact on the readiness of the entire U.S. Army.

Presently, 12 TRADOC installations have drill sergeants: Fort Bliss, Texas; Fort Benning, Ga.; Fort Gordon, Ga.; Fort Huachuca, Ariz.; Fort Sill, Okla.; Fort Leonard Wood, Mo.; Fort Rucker, Ala.; Fort Knox, Ky.; Fort Eustis, Va.; Fort Lee, Va.; Presidio of Monterey, Calif.; and Fort Jackson, S.C.

Aberdeen Proving Ground, Md., and Redstone Arsenal, Ala., — both Army Materiel Command installations — have drill sergeants in Ordnance Advanced Individual Training. The Army Medical Department Center & School, Fort Sam Houston, Texas, and U.S. Army Special Operations Command, Fort Bragg, N.C., also have drill sergeants in Advanced Individual Training.

Reserve component drill sergeants represent training divisions throughout the United States.

For more information about this year's DSOY candidates and the competition, visit the special TRADOC Public Affairs Web site: www.tradoc.army.mil/pao/Web_specials/DSOY04/index.htm.



Casemate file photo by Patrick Buffett

A U.S. Army Reserve NCO knocks out pushups at Continental Park, Fort Monroe, during the 2004 Army Drill Sergeant of the Year competition.



Photo by Patrick Buffett

Reaching for the Stars

Tonja Knightner helps Lt. Gen. Robert Van Antwerp, commander of U.S. Army Accessions Command, promote her husband to major general during a June 3 ceremony at the post theater. Maj. Gen. Larry Knightner is the deputy commander for USAAC.

Cotillion celebrates fathers, daughters

Each year, Fort Monroe hosts a special celebration that honors the loving bond shared by fathers and daughters. The event includes dinner, dancing and a lot of fun.

The 2005 Father-Daughter Cotillion – sponsored by Monroe Child and Youth Services – will begin at 6 p.m., June 26 at the Bay Breeze Community Center.

The event is open to the general public and military members from all branches of service,

retirees and Department of Defense civilian personnel are welcome.

Tickets are \$19 for fathers and daughters 12 and older, \$14 for daughters 6 to 11, and \$9 for daughters 5 and under. The last day to purchase tickets (available at the Community Activities Center) is June 22.

All visitors 18 and older must present a valid picture ID to gain access to the installation. For more information, call 788-3957.

HELLCATS

Continued from Page 1

music. The streamers will mark the sacrifice and victories of American Soldiers who have answered the nation's call to war from colonial times to the present.

The performance by the West Point "Hellcats" promises an impressive display of marching precision, embellished by the twirls of silver bugles and intricate drumming routines.

Their show is indicative of the pride, discipline and honor that resonates at the military academy and serves as a way of life for its corps of U.S. Army cadets. The "Hellcats" represent more than 220 years of field music tradition at the nation's first service academy.

Performing in concert, The U.S. Continental Army Band's program will include the trumpet trio "Bugler's Holiday," by Leroy Anderson and Anne McGinty's "To Keep Thine Honor Bright," commissioned for the Bicentennial of the U.S. Military Academy.

The gazebo at Continental Park is located on the corner of Fenwick and Ingalls Road.

In case of severe weather, the celebration will be moved indoors to the Fort Monroe Theater, Building 42, on Tidball Lane near Saint Mary Star of the Sea Catholic Church. For those seeking weather updates, call the band's concert information hotline at 788-3620 or visit their website: www.tradoc.army.mil/band.

Guests are reminded that access to the installation requires a valid picture ID for anyone 18 years of age or older.

6 X 7
AD

Spotlight
Event

Fort Monroe Change of Command

Col. Jason T. Evans will assume command of Fort Monroe from Col. Perry D. Allmendinger during a July 14 ceremony scheduled for 9 a.m. at Continental Park. This event is free and open to the public. In case of severe weather, the ceremony will be moved indoors to the Post Theater on Tidball Lane.



Photo by Mike Tatum

New TUSCAB commander

Capt. Todd Addison, the new commander of The U.S. Continental Army Band, gives Sgt. Maj. Carl Baughman the unit guidon that was passed from outgoing commander Maj. Andrew Esch during a ceremony at the Post Theater June 3.

**2x2.5
AD**

**2x3
AD**

**2x4
AD**

**4X12
AD**

The Future Leaders and Thinkers Toastmasters Club meets June 20 at 11:40 a.m. in the TRADOC Public Affairs conference room, Building 27. For more information, call 788-2407.

Fatherhood conference

The USO of Hampton Road’s Fatherhood Conference that was scheduled for today has been postponed until Sept. 16. The hours of the event — 7:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. — and the Fort Monroe locations remain the same.

The free event focuses on the theme, “The Nurturing Father.” Military members of all ranks are encouraged to come out and expand their fathering skills and learn about available support services.

Dads and their families will be treated to a barbeque dinner and free USO show after the conference. The event will also feature a video production highlighting pictures of fathers with their families. Participants may enter photographs for use in the video. Send them to photo@usohr.com.

Registration is free and can be completed online at www.usohr.com. For more information, call Eva Granville at 788-3878.

Red Cross gas giveaway

Every time potential blood donors sign in at a Red Cross blood drive this summer, they will be automatically registered to win \$100 in free gas. The giveaway continues through Labor Day.

Each week, the Red Cross will randomly draw one winner from blood drive sign-in sheets. A blood drive is conducted at Monroe every other month on the second Wednesday. Look for announcements about other drive locations in local papers.

At the end of the campaign, one grand prize winner will be selected from the Tidewater area to receive free gas for a year, valued at \$1000.

If you are 17 years of age or older, weigh at least 110 pounds and are in good health, you are probably eligible to give blood. For more information on blood donation, logon to www.weneedblood.org or call 1-800 GIVE LIFE.

Thrift Shop news

The Fort Monroe Thrift Shop – Building 12, across from the Post Exchange – will be closed July 1 in honor of Independence Day.

Regular hours, which are 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Tuesdays and Fridays, resume July 5.

The shop will close for the summer July 29 and reopen Sept. 13. Consignment checks for July will be issued from 10 a.m. to noon Aug. 2.

Consignments are accepted 10 a.m to 1 p.m. For more information, call 788-2566.

More NEWS CLIPS, Page 16

Fort Monroe Soldier of the Month



Spc. Elmore Brown, Jr.

Organization: U.S. Army Accessions Command
MOS: Administrative Specialist
Time in Service: 18 months
Duty Assignments: U.S. Army Garrison, Yongsan, Korea; Fort Monroe.
Hometown: Charlotte, N.C.
What it means to be selected: “It feels great to be selected especially since this is my first time competing.”

Show your support for troops deployed to Operations Iraqi or Enduring Freedom with “Gifts from the Homefront” gift certificates. They can be purchased by military and nonmilitary for immediate use at exchanges worldwide.

For more information, visit www.aafes.com or call 877-770-4438.

5X10
AD

Congratulations Class of 2005



Erin Jasenak is graduating with highest honors and an International Baccalaureate diploma from Hampton High School. She plans to attend James Madison University where she will major in pre-physical therapy. Her parents are Mike and Kim Jasenak.



Travell Jones is graduating from Warwick High School. He plans to attend Thomas Nelson Community College and major in criminal justice or aeronautics engineering. His parents are Mike and Sandra Jones.



Clayton Holly, Jr., is graduating with highest honors from Kecoughtan High School. He plans to attend Virginia Polytechnic Institute where he will major in computer engineering. His parents are Clayton and Jackie Holly.

Fort Monroe wishes the best of luck to its graduating seniors



Keith Smith is graduating from Granby High School. He has been elected into the National Honor Society of High School Scholars. He plans to attend Old Dominion University where he will major in music and minor in psychology. His parents are William and Doris Smith.



Robert Mixon is graduating from Phoebus High School. He has earned an Army ROTC Scholarship and plans to attend North Georgia College and State University where he will major in pre-medicine. His parents are Maj. Gen. Robert and Ruth Mixon.



Derek Torrence is graduating with highest honors from Phoebus High School. He plans to attend Johnson and Wales University, Charlotte Campus, where he will major in food service management and minor in culinary arts. His parents are Lt. Col. Gerald and Tracie Torrence.



Eric Torrence is graduating with honors from Phoebus High School. He plans to attend Johnson and Wales University, Charlotte Campus, where he will major in food service management and minor in culinary arts. His parents are Lt. Col. Gerald and Tracie Torrence.



James Hockaday III is graduating from Kecoughtan High School. He plans to join the Air Force. His parents are Dale and Renee Nixon.



Paul Whaley is graduating from Phoebus High School. He plans to attend the University of Oklahoma and major in performing arts. His parents are Sgt. 1st Class Gordon Goldhammer and Wendy Whaley.



Ashley Arrington is graduating from Bethel High School. She plans to attend Virginia State University where she will major in criminal justice and minor in dance. Her parents are Ernest and Sandra Hagins.



Kevin Beville is graduating from Phoebus High School. He plans to attend Thomas Nelson Community College, possibly majoring in biology or psychology. His parent is Col. Jody Draves.



Rebecca Buffett is graduating with highest honors from York High School. She plans to attend Christopher Newport University and major in music performance and education. Her parents are Patrick and Lisa Buffett.

All of the information above was provided by parents and high school seniors of the Fort Monroe community as a result of announcements in the April and May issues of the Casemate and during the garrison commander's staff meeting for directors. The placement and/or sizing of photographs is not meant to reflect favoritism of any particular student. The Casemate apologizes if any graduating high school seniors were overlooked.

**3X7
AD**

Chaplain’s story begins with boyhood dream

BY PATRICIA RADCLIFFE
CASEMATE STAFF WRITER

The Army life – rugged Soldiers enduring harsh conditions while struggling against the enemy in heated battles – was the stuff of dreams for a young boy growing up in Florida.

He knew in his heart that, one day, he too would join the service and stand side-by-side with those who would even sacrifice their lives in the name of freedom.

But this story has an interesting twist ... Wilbert Harrison, now a Soldier, does not carry a conventional weapon. He is armed with the Word of God. He is serving his nation as a U.S. Army Chaplain.

“I recall when I was a kid, watching this Army (oriented) show called ‘Combat,’” said Harrison, now a lieutenant colonel and the installation chaplain for Fort Monroe. He will PCS to Fort Stewart, Ga., next week.

“I was fascinated by ‘Combat’ and the Army. That spilled over into the desire to be an Army chaplain. I felt God’s leading in it and He gave me a way to do it.



Photo by Patricia Radcliffe

Post Chaplain, (Lt. Col.) Wilbert Harrison

“I’m proud to wear this uniform and be part of the history of a country that sets the example. It’s not that we’re perfect but we set the example ... the Army has been there to provide peace and squelch many disturbances. Yes, it (can be) a dangerous mission, a dangerous job,”

said the Gulf War veteran.

After growing up in the Bible-Belt town of Lake Harbor, Fla., Harrison attended Miami Christian College in Miami. Upon graduation, he considered taking the anticipated route — entering into a church as part of the staff or starting a church. But he wanted something more structured; so he became a federal prisons minister. Then, in 1984, he joined the Army Reserves.

“There were things we couldn’t

do in the prisons. We were too restricted ... for example, baptisms, Christenings or dedicating infants,” he said alluding to his enjoyment of providing full-family ministerial care.

Harrison served as a chaplain for the federal prison system for five years. In July 1987, his boyhood dream was realized ... he joined the active duty Army.

“The best thing about being an Army chaplain ... is being with Soldiers; being in the trenches and seeing our young men and women training for war and sharing the camaraderie,” Harrison said, spreading his arms and beaming. “There’s nothing like it. You can go on these divisional posts and there is a sense of pride. When you go down to Fort Jackson (S.C.) and places where they are training AIT students or those getting ready to be shipped out, there’s such a euphoria of fight on that post. Everybody is proud of what they do.”

Harrison understood the mind-set. They shared his path; his desire as a child. “I can remember in elementary school, I always knew a sense of the spiritual; a sense of a relationship with God. I’ve had dreams; there’ve been many ways

See CHAPLAIN, Page 9

3X8
AD

3X7
AD

CHAPLAIN

Continued from Page 8

God has confirmed that to me. Mostly, it was something I always knew in my heart,” he said with a big grin. “Like mountain climbers know they have to climb mountains, it’s in their hearts.

“I was about 6 or 7 when I (received Jesus as Savior). I realized trying to be good wasn’t going to get it because I was already in trouble at school and home. It plagued me. Finally, my Sunday school teacher told me about the Lord and having a relationship with Him. That was what I was looking for. I had been waiting for someone to come along and tell me what I needed to do to be in a relationship with Jesus, and she had the answer. I jumped on it.”

Despite the dangers, rigors and obligations of Army life, Harrison manages to keep his faith intact.

“I really try to have a personal daily devotional life. By that I mean with scripture reading and prayer; and I like to do that alone. That feeds me ... energizes me. You have to be able to hear from God, and the only way to do that is to find a place where you can listen. You have to have a devotional life,” he said.

“Having a daily physical fitness routine also empowers me. Having the people that I workout with who are positive, helps my spiritual life,” he continued.

Psalms and Proverbs are his

favorite books. He said he draws strength from the writings of the one who the Bible describes as “a man after God’s own heart” and another called the “wisest man who ever lived.” Both offer lessons on how to approach everyday life, relationships and business.

Despite the devout life of a chaplain, conflicts do sometimes arise. Yet, Harrison counts himself as fortunate.

“There have been situations where chaplains are intimidated by higher rank. What they preach or how they pray can be somewhat threatening to their career, if the command is not receptive of it. But for the last ten years, I would say a great bridge has been built between chaplains and commanders where chaplains are feeling a lot more at ease to preach the Gospel or to preach salvation or the tenet of their particular faith without feeling there will be any kind of retribution,” Harrison said.

“I have been fortunate enough to have had commanders who either (said nothing) and let me perform my ministry or were very mentoring and helped me along life’s journey,” he said.

That “journey” has included a wide variety of positions from division support commands to community chaplain’s offices. His assignments include Schofield Barracks, Hawaii; DISCOM and Family Life chaplain at Fort Stewart, Ga.; and Battalion Chaplain for the 29th Field Artillery, Baumholder, Germany and the 15th Engineer Group at Fort Lewis, Wash.

A defining moment for the chaplain occurred only a few months after he came on board here in 2003.

He came face to face with the infamous Hurricane Isabel.

“I believe that the storm did more for me than any other event here. It was almost like ... it was a time to step up to the plate. Everything being destroyed, working under those conditions.”

Difficult circumstances, it has been said, can make a person better or bitter. Harrison discovered new things about himself as a result of the storm.

“A trial or disappointment does one of two things in you. For me, it allowed me to look inside and see who I really was. It brought me out of my shyness. It brought me out of feeling sorry for myself. It brought

out of me a person who faced a seemingly insurmountable challenge.

“I was in a position that forced me to be vocal, it forced me to be a leader to the best of my ability. God used that storm to create within me a new person. As far as I’m concerned, I’m not worried about too much anymore,” he said.

Looking forward to his next assignment as Deputy Post Chaplain at Fort Stewart, Harrison said he expects to grow even more as he faces the challenges of a new and different mission.

“Fort Monroe has really prepared me for a greater career. It has its own standard, which has challenged me. It requires you to be your best, to do your best, to act your best and not take things for granted.

“At my next duty station, I will be much more conscious (of the fact) that what I learned here I can take to another post and, hopefully, when I get there, they’ll teach me other things I need to know about life.

“They all have their different story. Monroe is different from Fort Stewart, they each have their clientele; they have their population. I met some great, sharp people here, military as well as civilian. Bottom line is, when you are around good people, you want to do good too.”

3X7
AD

3X7
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Photo right: Staff Sgt. Dexter Madison, TRADOC, fires a 105mm Howitzer during the Memorial Day 21-gun salute at Continental Park. Photo below: Fort Monroe family member Staci Allmendinger and daughter, Kendrick, join in prayer during the Hampton National Cemetery observance.



Photos by Patrick Buffett



Photo above: A rifle detail from Headquarters Company, Fort Monroe, awaits the start of the Memorial Day ceremony at Hampton National Cemetery. The members are Staff Sgt. Shawn Murray, Pfc. Eric Basile, Sgt. Rhonda Boatwright, Spc. Amy Burns, Spc. Samantha Coston, Pfc. Katherine Brown and Sgt. Christine Garcia. Photo right: Sgt. Christopher Walter, 233rd Military Police Detachment, renders honors during the playing of "Taps" at the Hampton ceremony.



Lest we forget



Photo above: Maj. Gen. Paul D. Eaton, Deputy Chief of Staff for Operations and Training, U.S. Army TRADOC, discusses the significance of honoring the nation's fallen Soldiers during the Memorial Day observance at Hampton National Cemetery. Photo right: Luke Miller of Cub Scout Pack 9, Phoebus, adds an appropriate Memorial-Day-weekend decoration to a gravesite at the nearby national cemetery May 27. Luke's dad, Lt. Col. Frank Miller, works at the TRADOC Futures Center. Photo far right: Staff Sgt. Frank McCaskill of The U.S. Continental Army Band plays "Taps" during the Memorial Day salute at Continental Park.





Photos by Patrick Buffett

*Singing many of their top-selling hits from the past decade, and a few new numbers due to be released with their latest album, **Diamond Rio** drew a few thousand country fans to Fort Monroe for its first summer concert Saturday at Walker Airfield. The summer concert series continues July 4 with a featured performance by Trace Adkins.*

Diamond debut dazzles Monroe concert fans

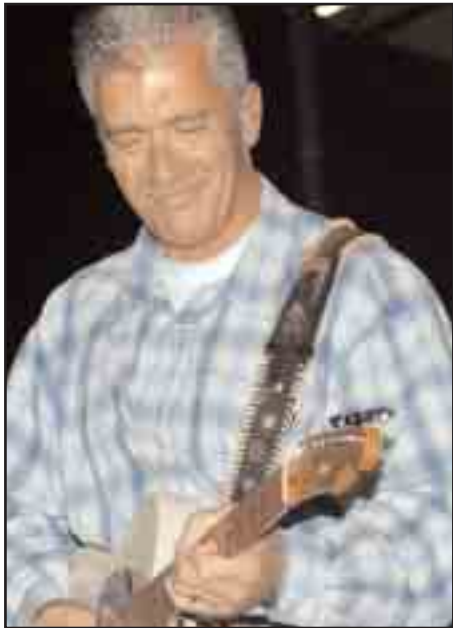


Photo left: Diamond Rio’s Jimmy Olander demonstrates his prowess with stringed instruments during a guitar solo. Photo right: Dana Williams adds his smooth baritone harmony to a Diamond Rio ballad.



Diamond Rio lead singer Marty Roe poses with Kylah Hobbs, a young fan from nearby Hampton.



Photo above: Local southern rock performer Heather Edwards opens last Saturday’s concert here with popular hits like “Heaven” (originally released by Los Lonely Boys) and “Love Sneakin’ Up On You” (released by Bonnie Rait). Photo left: Tom Gogarty adds to the sound of the Heather Edwards’ Band with rhythm guitar and accompanying vocals.



Retirees rank among FitLinxx top ten

BY PATRICIA RADCLIFFE
CASEMATE STAFF WRITER

Three “senior” members of the Fort Monroe Fitness Center family have outpaced more than 1,000 other competitors who took part in May’s FitLinxx challenge.

FitLinxx is a computerized program that helps fitness buffs keep track of their varied physical activities. During the challenge, points are awarded for specified events - i.e., five per each minute of cardiovascular workouts like running, walking or swimming and one point for every 100 pounds lifted.

The number one score was attained by Anderson Ash who accumulated 35,526 points. Not far behind Ash were three gentlemen in the 70-plus age range who are among the top ten finishers.

Second place went to 72-year-old Eldridge



Photo above, Earl Parker demonstrates how quickly he can lift over 5,000 pounds - using multiple reps - on a chest fly machine at the Fitness Center Tuesday. The fly machine is tied into the FitLinxx system that totals actual weight lifted and the number of reps. Left, George De Haven puts a Fitness Center treadmill through its paces. De Haven combines walking with weightlifting during his workout routine.

Photos by Patricia Radcliffe

Jones who accumulated 26,544 points. His exercise of choice is the punching bag.

“You can’t beat the bag,” Jones said with a grin that acknowledged his play on words. “The bag works all the muscles. (It also improves) your timing when dancing around the bag and striking it; as long as you strike it properly. You have to have your wrists taut, but you have to be relaxed. It’s just like boxing. You don’t try to knock out someone every time you throw a punch. If you did you wouldn’t last over two rounds because you’d wear yourself out.”

Wearing himself out is not something this former welterweight does. Retired from the Air Force, Jones said that he has exercised his entire adult life and boxed for a while when stationed in Korea 52 years ago. Now, he beats the bag about 45 minutes and runs on the treadmill up to 40 minutes several times a week. His routine is mainly aerobic instead of anaerobic, so that he doesn’t “bulk up” too much.

“I work out to keep my weight down and keep my blood pressure stable, and I like doing it. It makes me feel a heck of a lot better, and I eat a lot less after a workout. I work out pretty hard on the bag. The weights are ok, but I’d rather run on the treadmill or get on a bicycle,” he said.

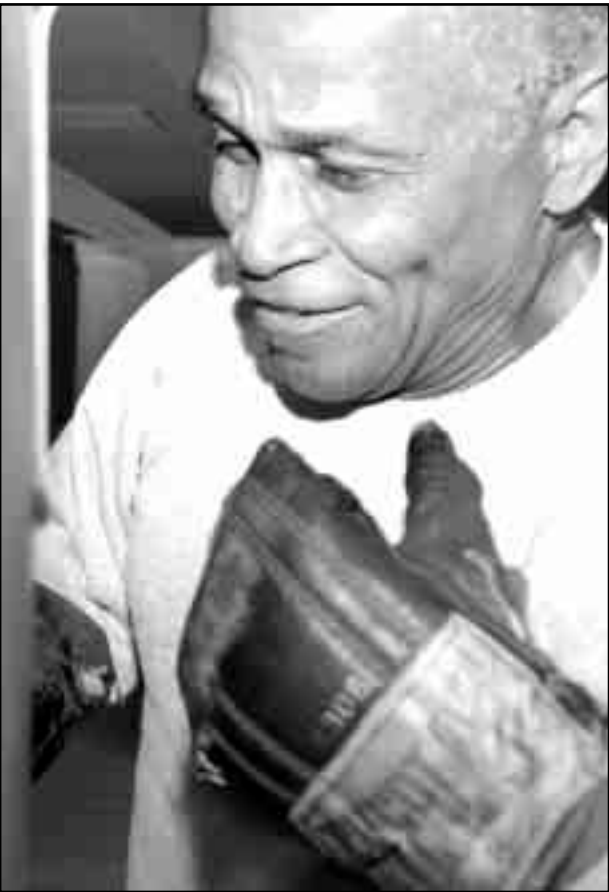
George De Haven, who finished fourth in the FitLinxx challenge, combined weightlifting and aerobic exercise to garner 20,731 points last month. He visits the Fitness Center during off-peak times and walks on a treadmill for 60 to 75 minutes. He follows that up with visits to 11 different weight machines that are tied into the FitLinxx system. His typical workout session lasts 2.5 to 3 hours.

“There’s something for everyone here, like these machines. Basically, anyone can come here. I wasn’t any better at it when I started than anyone else. Come out here and start slow and build up,” De Haven said.

“When I was 40, I never thought I’d be here exercising at 75. It’s great,” the Army retiree added.

A combination of strength and aerobic exercise also keeps 73-year-old Earl Parker, number six on the FitLinxx Challenge list, invigorated. Along with working out on post, he plays golf and even roller skates with his nine-year-old granddaughter each week.

Parker, an Air Force retiree, said that he got off to a slow start in the challenge because he had to “lay off” for a week after pulling a back muscle while working at home. Still, he made up for lost time by grabbing 15,821 non-golfing, non-roller-skating points mainly by using the



Eldridge Jones works the punching bag and accumulates FitLinxx points at the Fort Monroe Fitness Center.

strength machines. He lifts up to 70,000 pounds a day - verified by machine readouts.

“I love a challenge,” Parker said. “I guess that’s why I keep doing it. I try to stay in shape not just because it is healthier and may prolong (my) life for a while, but it helps when you get sick.”

Parker is a three-time cancer survivor who has had surgery and radiation treatments as recently as 1998.

“I really do believe it helps you recover and helps you get through difficult situations, keeps your blood pressure down or manageable and keeps your blood sugar down,” Parker said. “And, I’m still plugging.”

Intramural Volleyball Standings

Post Diggers	11-1	DCMA	3-9
HQCC	9-3	ISA	2-8
DCSRM	7-4	IS/SJA	2-10
NERO	7-4	*As of June 8.	

Standings are provided by the Fort Monroe Sports Office.

Sports Roundup

USTA championship

The Hampton Roads Convention Center will host the United States Trampoline and Tumbling Association championship Wednesday through June 19. Over 2,500 athletes are expected participate in the two categories.

Competition begins at 9 a.m. each day. Passes range in price from \$8 to \$25.

Visit www.usta1.org or call the convention center hotline at 315-1610 for more information.

Sports Catalog

The Exchange Services’ 2005 Sports & Fitness Catalog features a wide selection of sporting goods, camping gear, aquatic items and exercise equipment. Visit www.aafes.com for more information.

Tidewater Wolves

The Tidewater Wolves Football and Cheerleading Association is looking for players, ages 6-14, for the 2005 season.

An open registration session will be held Saturday from noon to 3 p.m. at the Tabb Library. The next registration will be held July 30 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., at the Bethel Manor Youth Center in the

Bethel Manor housing section of Langley Air Force Base.

The cost is \$110 per child, which covers football jerseys and cheerleader jackets with the player’s name. Bring the original and a copy of the child’s birth certificate for football players.

For more information, call C. Courtney at 867-9639 or visit www.tidewaterwolves.com.

MoatNotes

UPCOMING SPOTLIGHT EVENTS

MUTS Tribute to Army June 16
Clean Sweep Walk June 21
Ethics Training June 21
MUTS 'Portraits' June 23
Father-Daughter Cotillion June 26
TRADOC Org. Day June 30
For more on these and other upcoming events, see calendar below or other stories and briefs in this issue.



June 10

Summerfest

Fort Monroe's newest family fun event — Summerfest by the Bay — continues today from 5 to 9 p.m., with live music by local band "Permanent Vacation." The gathering takes place at the post outdoor pool and along the boardwalk behind the Bay Breeze Community Center.

Other features of the celebration include games, swimming, beach volleyball and barbecued food. The event is open to the public and reservations are not required.

Summerfest will continue each Friday through Sept. 2. Off-post participants should note that access to the installation for anyone 18 years and older requires a valid picture ID. If severe weather occurs, the event will be cancelled. For more information, call the Morale, Welfare and Recreation Special Events Hotline at 788-2850.

Seawall Festival

Olde Towne Portsmouth's 2005 Seawall Festival kicks off today at 5:30 p.m. Throughout the weekend, the event will feature back-to-back band performances with music ranging from blues and R&B to "modern" rock and "new" country.

The blues group "H.M. Johnson" will open the festival. The variety group "Slapwater," R&B singer Tank, and Bill Deal's Original Rhondels round out this evening's lineup. The festival will continue from 4 to 9:50 p.m., Saturday, and noon to 6 p.m., Sunday. Both days also include a full lineup of band performances.

Admission is free. Participants can purchase food and drinks from an on-site vendor. Portside park and North Ferry Landing is located at 6 Crawford Parkway. For more information, call the Olde Towne Visitor's Center at 393-5111.

June 11

Bethel battle

More than 1,000 re-enactors will take part in the Battle of Big Bethel this weekend at Endview Plantation, Newport News. This event is among the top 20 local attractions identified by the Southeast Tourism Society.

In addition to the mock skirmishes, the living history program will feature ladies' activities, puppets, live entertainment, children's events and period church services. Food vendors will also be on site.

Admission for the event is \$7 per person. Ages 7 and under are free. Guided tours of the historic planta-

Fire Station Fervor



Photo by Patricia Radcliffe

Firefighter Matthew Blodgett helps Boy Scout Nickolas Swoopes, 7, and brother Benjamin, 5, locate the "hidden" ladder on a fire truck during a scout visit on June 1.

tion are also available for an additional \$3. The hours for Saturday and Sunday are 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. For more information, call 887-1862.

Block party

The Saturday Night Block Party along Queens Way in Downtown Hampton will feature the band "Filomath." The celebration starts at 6 p.m. The street fair is fun for all ages and features an "alcohol-free" children's area. Admission is free. For more information, call 727-1570.

June 16

Tradewinds Quintet

The American Theatre, Hampton, continues its tradition of presenting the finest ensembles from the area's military bands with a concert by the "Tradewinds Quintet" Thursday at 7 p.m.

The concert will include the premiere of a new music arrangement titled "Three Movements in Six for Five," by composer James Alexander Blachly. The quintet will also perform classical pieces from Ravel

and Puccini, patriotic music and more contemporary arrangements written for the movies.

Admission is free. For more information, call 722-2787.

June 18

Journal workshop

Exercise your creativity and stretch your imagination during The Courthouse Galleries, Portsmouth, journal-making workshop June 18 from 10 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Multimedia artist Lynne Sward teaches the workshop, and emphasizes, "There are no rules ... anything goes." The tools of her techniques include paint, stamps, paper folding, weaving and lots of individual attention.

The class fee is \$20, which includes admission to the Courthouse Gallery exhibits on the day of the class. Members of the Portsmouth museum group receive a \$5 discount. Participants are asked to bring their own supplies and lunch. For reservations and further details about required supplies, call 393-8543.

June 19

Yorktown concert

A free performance by the York River Concert Band is scheduled to begin at 5:30 p.m., June 19, at the Grace Episcopal Church, Yorktown. Guests can bring chairs and/or blankets, and a picnic supper, for the outdoor event. For more information, call 890-4490.

Groovin' by the Bay

Buckroe Beach, Hampton, kicks off its new "Groovin' by the Bay" program on June 19 at 6 p.m. Sunday evenings at the park will be rocking with a musical lineup that includes pop, oldies, swing and beach music.

The opening evening features Bill Deal's Rhondels, Coolin' Out and Gator Almond and the Spice of Life Band. Admission is free. Parking is \$2. Refreshments will be available for purchase. For more information, call 727-8311.

Children's Museum

Celebrate dad's special day at the Children's Museum of Virginia, Portsmouth. Kids and dads can team up on a toy-building project or participate in one of many games and activities. Each child will also have an opportunity to build a pop-up card especially for dad.

The museum's Sunday hours are 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Admission is \$6. Children under 2 get in for free. A special Father's Day discount coupon and additional information about the museum is available at www.childrensmuseumva.com.

AT THE MOVIES

Showing at the Fort Eustis Theater

Friday, June 10

7 p.m. — The Interpreter (PG-13)

Saturday, June 11

7 p.m. — The Interpreter (PG-13)

Wednesday, June 15

7 p.m. — Hitchhiker's Guide (PG)

Thursday, June 16

7 p.m. — Hitchhiker's Guide (PG)

Friday, June 17

7 p.m. — House of Wax (R)

Saturday, June 18

7 p.m. — House of Wax (R)

Wednesday, June 22

7 p.m. — XXX: State of Union (PG-13)

Thursday, June 23

7 p.m. — XXX: State of Union (PG-13)

*The Langley Air Force Base movie theater is closed for renovations.

Adults \$2, children 6-12 years old \$1.50 and children under 6 are free. If a child under 6 occupies a seat at a G-rated movie, admission is \$1.50. Special movie showings are available. For more information, call 766-1237.

TRADOC Organization Day

Annual event celebrates employees, families

Organization Day is celebrated here annually to recognize the untiring efforts of Fort Monroe employees and thank them for the important work they do for the nation's defense.

It is a time for everyone, including family members, to play, relax, socialize with friends, engage in some friendly competition, eat good food and enjoy our beautiful fortress.

This year's festivities are scheduled for June 30 and now is the time to sign up for sporting events and buy tickets for your organization picnic.

Registration is underway for volleyball, softball, canoe races, horseshoes, tennis, and basketball. Check out the Organization Day Web site: www.monroemwr.com/tradocorg.htm for a detailed listing of events — to include locations, times, rules and sign up information — and e-mail links to the each event sponsor.

Prior registration is not required for the 3K Fun Run/Walk, 3-legged race, fishing, and closest-to-the-pin golf events. Just walk up and play. All military and civilian employees and family members of participating organizations are eligible to participate in the sporting events.

Trophies or medals will be awarded to first and second place winners at the conclusion of each event by the senior representative of the sponsoring organization.

A picnic site has been designated for each



participating organization and they are planning their lunchtime activities individually. Meal plans range from grilling burgers and hot dogs to catered picnics with barbeque and fried chicken. Many are also putting together children's activities and offering "door" prizes.

Check with your planning team to see what your organization is doing. It is especially important to purchase meal tickets early, where applicable, as shopping needs to be done and caterers require advance payment.

As in previous years, the garrison commander has authorized limited use of alcohol for Organization Day but the final determination is to be made by your individual organization's leadership. If you are permitted to drink, drink responsibly.

A question frequently asked is whether con-

tractors can attend Organization Day. Legally, they cannot participate in this type of function at government expense; however, they are more than welcome to attend if on leave or using compensatory time arranged through appropriate channels.

This is an excellent opportunity to acknowledge the tremendous amount of behind-the-scenes work conducted on behalf of this event. From the members of the planning committee who took on the task of organizing and coordinating events as an additional duty, to the Post Plans and Training Division that coordinates far too many intricate details to list. Then there is MWR that provides all of the equipment for sporting events and picnics, sets up tents, and is always there with a helpful suggestion or friendly smile.

Let's show our appreciation to these folks as well by getting out of our cubicles and taking a break from our workstations to share in a day of friendly competition and team building.

As a fundraising activity, DCSRM is selling Organization Day T-shirts, sporting the colorful event logo. The shirts are available in a variety of sizes. Prices are \$11 for standard sizes and \$13 for XXL and XXXL.

T-Shirt orders and payment must be received by June 14. For more information about the shirts, contact Pat Teifer at 788-3944 or Diane Milner at 788-3025.

June 21

Family movies

The POMOCO Family Movie Series returns to Buckroe Beach, Hampton, June 21 with another great lineup of films and fun. The series continues each Tuesday through Aug. 30 with entertainment starting at 7 p.m., followed by the movie at sunset.

Opening evening will begin with DJ music provided by Jeff Bristow of J&M Entertainment, and the weekly rotation of inflatable slides, moonwalks, games and assorted activities for kids provided by the Big Top Party Shop. On-site vendors will offer popcorn, pizza, hot-dogs and ice cream, among other goodies. Guests can also bring snacks to enjoy with the movie.

The featured showing that evening will be "Shark Tale." Other movies planned for the coming weeks include "Spongebob Squarepants," "Sky Captain & the World of Tomorrow," "Lemony Snicket's A Series of Unfortunate Events," "Spiderman 2" and "Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban."

The series is free and open to the public. Parking is \$2. Guests are encouraged to bring chairs and/or blankets to sit on while enjoying the movie. For more information, call 727-8311.

Lantern tours

Discover more than 300 years of history during the hour-long Olde Towne Portsmouth Lantern Tour

offered each Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday throughout the summer. A lantern-toting guide dressed in period attire leads each tour. Portsmouth's historic district includes homes that are centuries old.

Tuesday groups depart from the lobby of the Holiday Inn. Thursday and Saturday groups depart from the foyer of the Renaissance Portsmouth Hotel. Weekday tours begin at 8:30 p.m. The Saturday tour begins at 7:30 p.m.

Tickets can be purchased from the escorts immediately before the tour. Flat, comfortable shoes are recommended. The tour covers approximately one mile. For admission fees and other information, call 393-5111.

June 22

Ocean journey

Seahorses, stingrays, crabs and sand dollars are just some of the living creatures children may see up close during a special ocean journey that's offered by the Virginia Aquarium and Marine Science Center, Virginia Beach, each Wednesday through Aug. 31.

Guests will climb aboard the "Miss Virginia Beach" for a trawling adventure in which the VAMSC staff brings fish and marine invertebrates on board for closer examination, discussion and a safe return to their habitat. Pelicans, dolphins and other sea life may also be spotted along the way.

The participation fee is \$12 for

adults and \$10 for children 11 and under. Tours depart at noon. For more information, or to learn more about the aquarium and science center, visit www.vmsm.com.

June 23

Technology Expo

Grab a first-hand look at all the latest gadgets and gizmos in the audiovisual, business communication and information processing arenas during the June 23 Technology Expo from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Bay Breeze Community Center.

All post workers, to include contractors and tenant agencies are invited. The event will also feature free giveaways and complimentary refreshments. Admission is also free.

June 25

Korean memorial

The city of Hampton will commemorate the 55th anniversary of the Korean conflict with a special memorial dedication at 10 a.m., June 25 at Memorial Park next to City Hall. Ceremony officials will unveil a seven-foot granite rendering of the map of North and South Korea. This event is free and open to the public.

Scrabble tournament

The Peninsula READS program of Newport News is hosting a Scrabble tournament June 25 at Carver Memorial Presbyterian

Church. Cash prizes will be awarded along with other giveaways. Tickets are \$10. Pre-registration is recommended. For more information, call 283-5776.

Living history

Costumed historians will demonstrate the life and times of the Civil War artillery soldier June 25 and 26 at Endview Plantation, Newport News. The living history program features an actual camp and field kitchen, musket firing demonstrations and troop maneuvers.

The program is included with Endview's regular admission, which is \$5 for adults, \$4 for seniors and \$3 for children ages 7 to 18. The June 25 program will run from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., and the June 26 program will run from 1 to 5 p.m. For more information, call 887-1862.

Elvis 500

Virginia Beach celebrates the legendary "King of Rock 'n' Roll" during the Elvis 500 Recliner Race starting at 9 a.m., June 25, on the boardwalk at 16th street.

The race is a spin-off of "hospital bed" runs held across the country. In this event, the vehicle is a recliner or easy chair on wheels and the required passenger must be dressed in Elvis regalia. Awards will be presented for top finishers as well as best costume and best decorated.

There is no fee for this event. Registration begins at 8:30 a.m. For official rules, registration forms and other "Viva Elvis" weekend activities, visit www.beachevents-fun.com.

NEWS CLIPS

Continued from Page 6

Phone cards for troops

Any American can help deployed troops call home this Father’s Day with the gift of a Military Exchange Global Prepaid Phone Card. Phone cards help troops in Operations Iraqi and Enduring Freedom connect with home from any of the 44 call centers in Iraq, 15 in Kuwait and Afghanistan and one in Kyrgyzstan.

Anyone can purchase a phone card by going to www.aafes.com and clicking on the “Help our Troops Call Home” link or calling 800-527-2345.

‘Serengeti Trek’

The Fort Monroe Chapel is seeking young adventurers of all ages for its exciting new summer program titled, Serengeti Trek: Where Kids Are Wild About God.”

The vacation Bible school program begins at 5 p.m., June 26 at the Chapel of the Centurion. Sessions continue from 9 a.m. to noon June 27 through June 30. Advanced registration at the Chapel Center has begun.

As part of this nationwide mission project to benefit needy children in Africa, participants will enjoy sing-a-longs, play team-building games, nibble “watering hole snacks” and take on the daily challenge to “let God’s love grow into their homes,” among other fun things, according to post chaplain (Lt. Col.) Wilbert Harrison.

For more information, call 788-2611.

TechNet set

Military, government and industry personnel involved in DoD transformation are invited to attend AFCEA’s Transformation TechNet: “Turning Ideas Into Reality” June 21 and 22 at

the Hampton Roads Convention Center, Hampton.

Expert speakers will include military officials from several branches. There will be panel sessions like “Warfighters Delivery” and an exposition featuring 50 defense contractors and/or technology companies from around the world.

The event is free to the military. A fee is required for all others. For a detailed schedule visit www.afcea.org/events/transformation. To register, contact Tobey Jackson at 703-631-6189.

Military appreciation

Ebenezer Baptist Church, located at 171 Semple Farm Road, Hampton, celebrates Military Appreciation Day June 26 at 10 am. All military families are invited. Call 865-1480 for details.

Ramblin’ Road Trip

The “Ramble Road Trip” Vacation Bible School Program at Buckroe Baptist Church, Hampton, is scheduled for July 22 through 26.

Built around an RV road trip, the week will be packed with exciting Bible stories, crafts, RV-related snacks and recreation for everyone.

The program is targeted toward elementary school aged children. For more information, call 851-0393.

TNCC seeks alumni

Thomas Nelson Community College is searching for its alumni to serve as mentors for students, network with one another and adress educational policy issues. For more information, call 825-2719.

Images of the Past



Patriotic Spirit

This postcard image comes from the Casemate Museum’s Rasmussen collection. Sgt. Christian Rasmussen and his family lived in Quarters 130B (22 Tidball Road), which is the approximate location of this photo. However, the little girl is not a member of the Rasmussen family, but a neighbor child named Catherine King. The image probably dates back to the July 4, 1913

6 X 7
AD

Summer temps bring pesky mosquitoes

BY GRADY WESSON
ENVIRONMENTAL
PROTECTION SPECIALIST

“Mosquito season” arrives each year with the hot, humid Hampton Roads weather.

Fortunately, the post's environmental office has tips to help members of the community cope with those annoying insects and ward off possible exposure to West Nile Virus.

Mosquitoes are more active in the early morning and at dusk, and are more concentrated around shrubbery during these times. An exception to this rule is the Asian Tiger mosquito, which is active during the day.

The most effective way to control mosquitoes around the home is to find and eliminate breeding sites. All mosquitoes have four life stages - egg, larva, pupa and adult. The first three must have water for development. Consequently, eliminating standing water can arrest their development. To do this:

- ❑ Check rain gutters and downspouts to see if they are draining properly; if not, they may be clogged. This may cause shallow pools to form when it rains creating a perfect place for mosquitoes to breed.

- ❑ Empty water from buckets lying outside your home. Buckets that are turned over can have depressions deep enough for mosquitoes to breed. Take them inside or dump the water from them every couple of days.

- ❑ Check bottom trays of flowerpots and lawn ornaments for stagnate water and replenish

them with clean water every couple of days.

- ❑ Maintain bird baths by changing the water daily.

- ❑ Other places that mosquitoes can breed are old tires, tarps covering trailers and boats, down spout splash blocks - which may not be sloped away from the home - and children's pools.

- ☐ Rake leaves from around your home to make sure there are no low spots that can collect and hold water. If there are low areas, fill them in so water will not be able to collect.

are not leaking when hoses are attached. When using window air conditioners, make sure the condensation is not ponding.

- ❑ Irrigate lawns and gardens carefully to prevent standing water. The rule of thumb is one inch per week.

Mosquitoes can be prevented or dissuaded from biting individuals by following a few precautions, like spraying one's clothing with an insect repellent that contains DEET or permethrin.

Adults should not use a product on children that contains more 10 percent DEET; and more than 35 percent on adults. Products containing either DEET or permethrin should not be applied to the skin. It is very important to follow repellent label directions to eliminate possible harm.

Wearing light-colored clothing during the day and dark colors at night and long pants and

long-sleeved shirts if working in the yard, staying indoors at dawn, dusk and in the early evening are ways to avoid being bitten by the insects.

The post has not turned a blind eye to controlling mosquito populations here. The environmental division and Griffin Services use light traps, CDC gravid traps, customer surveys and personal observations to monitor mosquitoes on the fort. Fogging operations and aerial spraying are based on this surveillance. Trapped mosquitoes will be taken to U.S. Army Medical Department Activity, Fort Eustis for identification and forwarded to the Center for Health Promotion and Preventive Medicine for testing. Griffin Services also places mosquito dunks in standing water as necessary to control mosquito larvae. The dunks are non-poisonous, doughnut-shaped objects which contain bacteria harmful to larvae. The dunks' active ingredient is *Bacillus thuringiensis* (BTI) which kills mosquito and black fly larvae. The product works for 30 days or more. BTI does not affect fish, plants, people or wildlife.

One concern with mosquitoes is the spread of West Nile Virus. Although West Nile may affect other birds, it typically infects crows and blue jays, and raptors - i.e., hawks, eagles or owls. Residents and employees on post are asked to report any dead birds of these types to the entomology shop at 788-2946. Dead birds will be identified and sent to the National Wild Life Laboratories, Madison, Wis. for testing.

MP Roll Call

DoD decal renewal

Concerns have been expressed about replacing faded DoD decals on cars.

Unfortunately, there seems to be a flaw in the ink that the manufacturer uses. When the decals are exposed to sun, chemicals (Windex, RainX, etc.) or friction from wiper blades, the ink deteriorates rapidly.

We have made the organization from which we receive our stock aware of the problem and we hope it will be rectified before we receive our new supply.

Replacing the decals when they become illegible is a matter of policy as stated in Fort

Monroe Regulation 190-5. The decals are necessary to identify which vehicles are authorized entry to the post and to locate vehicles or owners, if necessary.

The Alutiq security guards are ensuring the safety and security of the post and its occupants when enforcing this regulation. With the current world's environment and existing threats to our security, it's necessary that we leave nothing to chance to ensure that our pleasant way of life here at Fort Monroe is uninterrupted.

When you come to the Vehicle Registration Office to

replace the faded decal, bring your current state vehicle registration; proof of insurance that shows the vehicle identification number and current policy dates; proof of inspection (if your state requires it); driver's license and DoD ID card. The reason for bringing the documents is to ensure that the vehicle meets all the requirements to drive on Fort Monroe.

We understand that this may be an inconvenience but, our ultimate goal is to ensure each of us is working on a safe and secure facility. We ask for your continued patience and understanding.

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